Asthma

V

If more frequently in worst attacks of it I have ever seen have been in the Cattle fever. It sometimes kills in a few years, but there are instances of its having continued for ~~30 &~~ 50 years. ~~—~~ It continued 30 years in his John Lowyer. During which time he had often 30 paroxysms in a year. Its first attacks are generally in the right, & it is generally increased by a recumbent posture of the body.

Winter than Summer.

Asthma

This disease is known by its coming on with paroxysms attended with great difficulty of breathing, no expectoration in the beginning, but copious in the close of the fit, & generally attended with an erect posture of the trunk of the body. —

It is easily distinguished from Pninnony by not being attended with fever, & from Dyspnoea, by being attended with intervals of ease & apparent health.

It is sometimes hereditary. It now & then appears in Childhood — sometimes at puberty — again at 30 & in the decline of life. I have known it continue during life. In Sir John Floyer who has written on it it continued 80 years. It returns daily — every 3rd day, weekly, & monthly & and

~~It is indeed~~ by ~~crises which act directly~~ but sometimes once in 4 · 10 · 20 — & even 30 years. There are instances of its attacking but once in the course of a whole & that a long life. It occurs most frequently in the Spring & Autumn

There is a citizen of Philad in whom it is indwelling

vs. The East Wind. [~~in Capt: as himself~~]. ~~Felt~~

~~in bed~~ He feels it even at midnight in his bed.

vs The Indirect causes are

2

Its remote & exciting Causes are Direct and indirect. The former act primarily upon the lungs. They are sometimes

1 great heat, hence it prevails in the summer months, and hence the severest fits are in the hottest weather.

2 Cold succeeding to heat. 3 certain winds, dry or moist according to the nature of the Asthma. The Samoom wind of in the Deserts of Nubia bro't on an attack of Asthma in Mr Bruce which he felt for two years afterwards.

4 certain particles of matter acting mechanically upon the lungs such as chest-hair powder, metallic fumes, the Smoke of tobacco, the carbonic acid emitted from breweries.

5 Certain Odors, such as fœtid smells, & strong perfumes. The smell of new feathers by change of bed. The smell of Spice: has induced it in two persons mentioned in the med. comment. 14

6 The Suppression of customary evacuations, from the Uterus, & hæmorrhoidal Vessels.

7 Repelled eruptions. & worms, and other matters in the stomach, and bowels of an irritating particular kind.

Nature of the gout. Mr Ashmead Inst: 10 certain

I have known it induced by eating waffles,

The disease usually comes on in the evening, or in the night. In this forming state of a paroxysm of Asthma, the pediluvium — a vomit — a sponge — a few drops of Laudanum often prevent the fit. Six no Prayer adds to these preven=ting Remedies are more, that is sitting up all night. There is when the paroxysm is formed, there is seldom any increase of

turn over

~~4th~~ 9 11 also

passions particularly anger ~~10~~ very highly

country & city situations, or residence near the sea shore.

12 Gall stones. 13 ~~14~~ Long fasting. and the want of meals at regular or habitual hours.

14 Pregnancy. ~~It~~ sometimes occurs for the first time in pregnancy, & becomes habitual afterwards, or it occurs only during pregnancy.

15 Certain Aliments of an indigestible nature

~~15 tumors in the bowels~~ 16 Mr Wilson's case & morgagni's ~~Mattress insensibly~~ ~~the practice in breathing as we lay feed~~

16 Hard running, & climbing a hill. The former produced it in Capt Gryger in running to a fire, the latter in Capt Barry in walking hastily up a hill at Lisbon. 17 A paroxysm of Asthma

~~(a) The premonitory signs are lassitude drowsiness after dining - pale Urine - wakefulness - sneezing - irritable - cold and dry feet - peevishness and low spirits - with a stricture across the breast. These symptoms generally occur in~~

V The heat of the body, ~~in the height of a paroxysm~~ is about ~~of~~ 98. The pulse is generally natural but sometimes lowered & intermitting. The Respiration is quicker than in health, & the Inspiration sometimes so sudden & convulsive as to stop up the glottis ~~if an att~~ in eating solid Aliment. The lungs emit a noise in some people - In others a Rattling is heard resembling squeaking. The face is flushed or wand & little swelled - The dry beans in a Bladder. - patients are unable to lye down in the fit - they breathe easiest with their heads hanging down & their legs horizontal forming an acute angle with their bodies & by to measure the dimensions of the Thorax are enlarged 20 lines or nearly an inch & 1/2 - A fit ~~last 1, 2, or 3 days~~ ~~comes~~ on, ~~at night~~, I have said from 1/2 an hour to generally lasts 1, 2 or 3 days. The more complete the Intermissions, the more violent the fit, & vice versa. [The fits occurs from once - twice - ~~or 4 times~~ 6, 8 & times a year. Lis Ind & Coyes had the last number annually.] It is sometimes chronic, or exists without any intervals - ~~In these cases~~ when Chronic - there is often an incurable malorganization of the lungs. I have heard of a man who had this form of it who never laid down for seven years. ① The lungs discover no great wasting of disease disorder in ~~all~~ most cases after death ~~but~~

~~indigestable food in the Stomach.~~ I have known it induced by waffles in one instance, & by Buckwheat cake in another, in both of which it proved fatal. ~~It is often a form of Gout.~~

The disease

B. It is seated in the whole substance of the lungs ~~Bronchial Vessels~~, & is induced most commonly by that form of morbid excitement we called Spasm. It is ~~the nature~~ of a fixed and chronic nature according to the violence or duration of the fit. It has been divided into the Spasmodic & Pituitous – or the dry & humid. ~~In~~ The former occurs chiefly in early life – the latter in the decline of life – after the bronchial vessels to far lose their irritability as to cease to be able to assume Spasmodic contractions. ~~The~~ In this latter state, it frequently appears in the form of a moist cough attended with large expectoration in the morning.

This disease has its precursors. They are Lassitude – uneasiness in the breast, drowsiness after dinner, flatulency, dry & cold feet. All these symptoms occur chiefly in

Of this, there are many proofs from Dissection:

~~in most cases, a complaint of disease~~. It often in pneumony, ~~to~~ in a moist cough → Dyspnœa — ends in pulmo Consumption: ~~pain the~~ Hypochondriac which are its effects only & never its causes. They now & then it ends in Dropsy of the abdomen & it is occasionally attended with that disease; ~~be~~ w. insanity. ~~It is always attended with more or less pneumonia.~~ The patient sometimes dies in a ~~Life Dyspepsia~~ — The nerves, and sensitive ~~tissues~~ predispositions ~~tissues~~ both ~~disposes~~ to produce it.

A fit of Asthma is a near resem-
=blance of the last signs of life in other diseases. It is attended not only with cold hands & feet, but sometimes with cold breath. return to p: 5. B.

A gentleman ~~for~~ from the W. Indies placed him=
=self under my care ~~last~~ in the summer of 1807 with an Asthma which had prevented his lying in a bed for one year. His pulse was full & loose — his age 45 — but the name of his disease & the heat of the climate in which he lived deprived him of the benefit of Ly: It was bled instantly with pneumonia: & to 30 — or 40 — ounces by his care by small & frequent bleedings by which, with the aid of abstemious diet, — blisters to his ~~for~~ ankles & much Squills & calomel he ~~was~~ has been restricted to bed every night — and is a way of being ~~stupid in a bed every night~~ ~~passed a healthy season~~. There is a lady in this

the morning or at night. By attending to these a fitt of asthma may be prevented by the pedilavium — a vomit — a purge, or a few drops of Laud. — sitting up all night according to Floyer circumstances. Remedies p. 3 (a) These well Symptoms — see p. 3 (a)

(D) The Cure of Asthma divides itself into two parts:

I The treatment of a paroxysm &c

II The preventing its recurrence.

The Remedies under the 1 head are

1 Vs. where there is much oppression. The pulse here is not always a good guide. for as the disease is not seated in ye blood vessels, the arteries do not convey a just sense of the morbid excitement in the lungs. Mr Pope was much afflicted with this disease, and owed his life to the frequent use of the Lancet. A Lot of Doctors of this city lived to be near 60 in an asthma from the constant use of Vs. in nearly every paroxysm.

1 It shortens the fitt — 2 It renders it lighter,

ity who inherited an
father, who has been
is V.S. used as an Alterative
=ventages of the V.S. are,

bitterness from been
cured by chamie V.S. that
remedy. — The Ad=
turn back to it.

Dr Ahenside prefers Ipec. to any other emetic,
and advises it in nauseating doses, as well as
to excite a Vomiting. —

t kind, and never given so as to induce di=
=arrhoea which is ~~also~~ hurtful in this,
as in all acute other Diseases of the lungs.

& B prevents this obstructions which end in pulmonary consumption. It is not forbidden by a palmers of the fall.

2 Vomits. These give instant relief by indu=
=ing a new action in adjoining parts. Squills
are used for this purpose, but Ipec: and Squills very bind.
Ipec: will answer ~~nearly~~ as well & they are
much quicker & more certain in their operation.

3 Purges. These should be given where Vs: &
vomits are forbidden, and in all cases of
costiveness, but they should be of the most lenient
=
4 During the continuance of great morbid ex=
=citement in the lungs, Cold Air & Cold Drinks
have been found useful. Sir Jno Forbes often
found great relief ~~by~~ from both.

After the reduction of morbid Action in the lungs

5 Cland: may be given with great advantage
in small, but frequent doses & with or without Cspafetida
It should never be omitted after the reduction of morbid
6 The pediluvium. excitement in the lungs.

7 The Vapor of warm water — if ineffectual
by itself impregnated with the smell of cloves, Chisholm. Dr Beddoes:
8 Blisters to the wrists. Have often seen nosegay Dista & Oxy gas.

~~The same Remedies~~ ~~Different~~ The same Remedies produce a very
same grade of disease, administered in diff^t plays^ns diff^t from diff^t doses,
& diff^t times of exhibition.

13 Change of ~~Air~~ situation. The late Robt Morris of this city was often
in middle life afflicted with asthma, & when seized
with it at 12 O'clock at night in the country, used to rise from
his bed, & come to his town house in Water Street
where he soon found relief & an easy sleep during
=ing the remainder of the night. City air is
more agreeable to asthmatic people from
its being less liable to be affected by changes in the
weather. The Barometer shows the approaching
changes in the weather in the country nearly 1/2 a day sooner than
in large towns. I do not however derive the
influence of the air upon the lungs of asthmatic people
wholly from its ~~temperature or weight~~ weight,
~~or~~ sensible qualities - as heat, cold, moisture, or dryness.
It may be from more or less Elec^y or of the matter
which constitutes the malignant Constit^n of the
air, or some fine particles floating in it. ~~which~~
~~clude investigation~~. If one gr^n of Copper gave
a sensible color to 530,620 times its bulk of

this remedy act like a Charm & cure a paroxysm of Asthma in a single night. They abstract morbid excitant from y lungs. — y Bleeds — either mineral or vegetable. Sir Jno Floyer found them usefull in y Decline of a fitt of Asthma. ... Pringle & Sir J. Floyer.

10. smoaking Tobacco. — 11 Strong Coffee ℥i to ℥iv of water.

12 warm Air. Sir Jno Hawkins large Dr Johnson always found relief in the paroxysm of Asthma as soon as he came into a warm room, or sat down by a good fire. Here you see an instance of two remedies the opposites of each other, doing equal service in the same disease, viz: Cold & warm Air, it is because they are used in different states of the System. Vt. and Bark are medicines of equal contrariety, & yet they are often used with equal success in the course of y same fever. The supposed contradictions in medt. of the Act: of medicines books are often occasioned by a want of precision in relating the exact state of y System when these Medicines are exhibited. V

water (according to Mr Boyle) ~~of~~ the air receiving an extensive, & active im-
-pregnation from matters that ~~almost~~ at present
elude our investigation. There are however cases
in which a change of situation from a city to the
country is attended with the same salutary effects.

Dr Reid tells us in his treatise on
consumptions that near Uenley in Oxford
shire there is a passage cut thro a hill
of flint & chalk 170 yards in length & 7
feet in height - & 5 in breadth. The thickness
of the hill above this passage is 22 feet - the
Th stands at 43° in the Center of the cave
when it stands at 38° in the open air. In this
passage the Dr says an asthmatic patient
breathes with perfect ease - who could scarcely
breathe or walk in the open air - pro-
-bably owing to the Dampness of the air
in the Cave. Reid - p: 36 Dr Percivalin

We come next to treat of Asthma.

II. Is the Asthma a curable disease & can its recurrence be prevented? Answer it is — It has been cured by the following means by nature or accident.

1 Pregnancy. 2 By the change which the system undergoes after the separation of the menses.

3 By a new disease which has incited more or less action to some of the parts of the body. & consequently an attack of Jaundice. Gout & by a change of climate. The efficacy of this last remedy depends upon the nature of the Asthma whether it be what is called Dry or Bilious, that is when it is attended with a cough or followed by a cough with a discharge of the former. In the latter a moist climate is salutary. Mr Moist Slayer & James Prose of London & John Rix of this city formerly a resident of this city free from the Asthma, while the same damp climate in the Island of Providence enabled a Asthmatic patient to sleep soundly without the aid of pillows or any other aid. A sponge filled with water and held to the mouth, eases the Asthma which is sometimes induced by

10 Of the Remedies for a cure of incurable disease &c

Answer by the following

His medical Ethics relates the case of a Lady who was perfectly cured of an Asthma by siding in England a place this Coalbrook Dale generally filled with the smoke of pit coal.

We are however cases of Asthma which are not affected by any changes in the qualities of the air, and which in spite of local circumstances return only at this customary times.

Travellers in passing
Africa, and a vessel
heated stove by the
arm, removes the
induced by the dry heated air
moisture. Often prevents & cures the disease.
But on the contrary - in the ~~pituitous~~
~~Bronchitis~~ - which is attended with cough & a copious
~~mucous~~ Asthma - a Dry Air is most salutary.
expectoration of phlegm or mucus
Lord Chatham may we are told could not breathe
in the London, & the late Dr Jones when his
Asthma changed ~~from moist~~ Dry as he advanced in
life from the ~~humid~~ to the mucous form, was
obliged to leave New York (where he had
lived 40 years) to settle in this City. Here
he was seldom affected by Asthma. There
Dr Cullen supposes this disease cannot
be eradicated by medicine. Perhaps his opinion
was taken up from observing neglected, or half
cured fits of Asthma. The following Remedies
should be tried.

Vapor

1 Avoiding plethora by occasional V.S. or
low diet - This is of great consequence, for

V Dr Bree mentions the case of a gentleman in Eng who was perfectly cured by doing militia duty constantly for five years.

Exercise of the limbs especially the upper extremities has a wonderful effect in strengthening the lungs, such as Rowing - Shuttle cock - Quoits &c. That excitement is thus communicated to neighbouring parts has been proved by Dr Hart and formerly by a simple exp^t: Put one Arm in water at 56.° In 15 minutes the temperature of the water will rise to 65.° - or 9° - at which it will be stationary - Then raising the arm & leg of the opposite side, in which the arm is placed, & the heat of the water will rise to 73° - or 17° above 56.° - Excitement in this case in a certain degree always follows the communication & increase of the heat in the body.

the blood vessels always sympathize more or less with the debilitated Bronchial vessels. —

2 By avoiding all its exciting causes before enumerated.

3 By a seton in the side, or an issue in the arm.

4 By the Cold Bath.

5 By hard labor. A McLowry who was taken prisoner by the Indians, was perfectly cured of an Asthma by being obliged to conform to the hardships of the Indian mode of life.

6 Where hard labor cannot be dispensed to, exercise and long journeys should be advised.

I have known an instance of an asthmatic lady being much relieved by sleeping constantly on a straw bed.

7 By a resource to old habits. I know a lady who left off snuff upon which she had contracted an Asthma which had resumed her snuff box, after 6 months and her Asthma immediately left her. McMorgan.

V gr ~~[illegible]~~, in table spoonful of mustard taken every morning.

10 The habitual use of the ~~Oxyd~~ Rust of Iron in large doses. I have done much good by this medicine.

9 The nausea these med: relieves are given before the attack of the paroxysm, the latter, all diseases like the intermitting fever are cured most easily by giving tonics just before they make their attack.

~~9 The habitual use of the Oxyd of Iron~~

11 The Bark. This have been found most useful where the paroxysms have occurred on 3 ~~the~~ Days. Perhaps the an epidemic intermittent every have been combined with the Asthma in these cases.

12 Tar & Garlic have been useful in preventing the returns of this disease.

13 A spontaneous swelling of one leg has cured this disease. Does not this suggest the propriety of a perpetual blister to the lower extremities?

14 ~~Avoiding~~ Sleeping upon a mattress or a floor, or in a sitting posture for reasons mentioned in the histories of the remedies for Epilepsy.

13 ~~and~~ of Carrots, V

5 ~~a~~. a Diet consisting chiefly of ~~Garlic~~ ^ ~~shot~~ ~~The Oil~~ of Amber. & has in any form that is most agreeable taken as medicines. V

15 ~~th~~ a Change of Climate, Residence, United to the States of the disease before mentioned. — It has been cured by going from Naples to Venice & vice versa in Italy. but a Voyage to India from my Father has done no good in it.

15 ~~th~~ a Change of Occupation especially if the patient be exposed ~~to a~~ by his business to alternate heat or cold, lifting heavy weights, or to floating particles of Matter of any kind. ⓐ

~~or whence from tumor pancreas~~

~~Dr Hebridan says no. medicine~~ ⓐ By place in this disease when the pulse exceeds 120.

Upon ~~the Chancres of tumors of~~ itself these remedies I shall only remark that some of them have probably derived ~~of~~ their credit from the asthma going off spontaneously, for years - and in some instances for life. ~~which stages of the~~ If

is possible great faith in them may have in some instances been useful, particularly in the more feeble remedies which have been mentioned, for it remarkable the more trifling a medicine appears to be, the greater strength of faith is often placed in it.

Prudent that in this disease more that one system is often affected & those systems must be planned & medicines combined so as to suit each of them.

The premonitory signs of a paroxysm are lassitude, drowsiness & after eating, pale Urine, wakefulness, yawning, restless — cold & dry feet — peevishness — low spirits with a sense of stricture across the breast.

The Remedies for this state are the pediluvium — Lard: Nux vomica — an emetic — sitting up all night — Mustard to the feet — & a regard should be had to its remote & exciting cause in the Use of all these remedies.

⊙ I know an English Gent: in this City who was subject to this Disease who always travelled with a faggot in his Carriage in order to obtain a ~~quick~~ fire promptly in his room. He often called his servant up in the middle of the night to kindle this fire. The air rarefied by it always relieved ~~him~~ or cured the fit.